Southington July 23d. 1829. Thursday Morning

My dear Brother

I commence my letter thus early in the month, fearing that should I postpone it untill the usual time, my engagements would then be such as would compel me to defer it entirely, & as I have so recently been guilty of an omission. I cannot be satisfied to commit again the same offence. — —

We expect Ann to come from Hartford to day to spend a short vacation of a week with us, & as she has arrived at the age, & attained the size of a young lady it seems incumbent upon me to share with her all the pleasure & amusement that our retired situation affords. Of course I expect to be occupied in riding, walking & visiting during the brief space she will remain with us. — — — Besides this I expect to go to Catskill next week with Sister Sarah, to be absent about two weeks — Sophia was very urgent that we should visit them this season, but I had not much expectation that Sarah, on whom their excursion depended, would feel willing to leave her family, & go, but yesterday I received information that she had concluded to go & would leave N. H about the middle of the week — I shall therefore probably go to N. H early in the week & Ann will doubtless accompany me —— All this, with my daily avocations will keep me employed every moment, & 'tis only because I know how anxiously you look for American letters, & how much gratification you receive from them that I devote this morning to you.

Your letter dated Milan May 11th reached us on the 16th of this month & like all communications from our beloved brother afforded us unspeakable satisfaction. Three long years, even long in the retrospect, have rolled away since you bade farewell to this beloved home, endeared to us both, by the fond associations of childhood & more mature years; & where the recollection of our kind, departed parents is most vivid & most impressive. Memory often lingers round former days, when I was the object of their fond solicitude & shared largely in their affections, with a saddening influence. — The cares & trials & perplexities of life which daily thicken around me, make me conscious that those were days of happiness & of enjoyment that will never return. Yet why should I repine at the ordinary lot of humanity, when I have so many kind & judicious friends remaining in whose affections I am sensible of possessing a prominent place & who I am fully aware feel a deep interest in my happiness — But with all these kindness they cannot remove all my difficulties & much, very much rests upon myself & my dear Brother that you too, were here to bestow your advice & counsel. & yet perhaps I can imagine what it would be, since my last letter I have looked over those from you which contain any thing relative to the subject that now perplexes me, & I find what I had in fact forgotten, viz, your expressions of satisfaction at the apparent termination of the affair & your remark that you signified your approbation only because you thought my happiness concerned &c. — — I saw a few days since in a Utica paper a notice respecting Hamilton College, signed by the Sec. Dr Hopkins in which it was stated that as large a number of students were expected to enter this fall as at any time during the most prosperous state of the institution. There is no Senior class, to graduate, but several addresses are to be delivered, & the usual exercises of the previous evening are expected to take place. — — There is little now passing among us. Sickness to a considerable extent has prevailed in various parts of the town within a few weeks & in five or six cases has proved fatal. It seems to be something of an epidemic, varying in some respects from that which has prevailed here in former years. Our street has not been exempt from its ravages except in one instance. — — Mr D. S. Upson has been afflicted by some illness for some months which has for some time past assumed the appearance of consumption. About six weeks since he left home, by the advice of Physicians for an eastern voyage, went as far as Eastport, Maine, but found that his strength failed & that he was becoming worse & therefore remained but a short time, He reached home last week, but is extremely feeble & has not hope of living but a short period — We have so little intercourse with the great world that we know little of what is passing within it except what we collect from the Newspapers. These are much occupied by the reforming measures of the new President. — One of these reforms is the abolishment of the Post distributing office at Stamford so that there is none between N. York & Hartford. This is economy. — We learn too that Dr Sprague of Springfield has accepted a call to the society under the charge of the late Dr Chester albany

Thursday 29th at New Haven. I came down yesterday, hoping to be able to leave for Catskill this week but on my arrival found Sister S. sick & confined to her room with the teeth ache. She thinks however to be well enough to go next week. — — I believe I promised in my letter of last month that brother C— would write you at this time he did intend it but his engagements would not permit. He is in the midst of haying & works early & late, besides this his health was not ~~been~~ good for some weeks & he is now obliged to be very careful that his meals & his sleep should be very regular. — The health of the other members of the family is much as usual & there is no variety in our manner of living. Every year that I live finds me more & more engaged & occupied by the common affairs of life & consequently less space of leisure to devote to the acquirements of useful knowledge. Yet I see not that it can be otherwise & so long as I remain as I am my time & strength are at the disposal of my friends.

Ann is here with me but returns to Southington this week & on Monday to Hartford. She is well pleased with her situation there. — — The weather is extremely warm & dry, & its effects upon me is a loss of energy & an overwhelming inclination to indolence & in such a state it is impossible to extend this letter beyond the length at which it has already arrived. Therefore, still hoping that we shall see you before winter & with fervent love for yourself & Theresa I am your affectionate sister Elizabeth

Sisters Nancy & Sarah return their warmest acknowledgments for the bags sent them & desire a kind remembrance to you both

New Haven July 30 1828

My dear Brother

Elizabeth has left a page of this letter unoccupied & I improve the opportunity to let you know that my affection for you is unabated. I wish much to see you, & I hope that unless the inducements for remaining abroad another year are very great, you will adhere to your original plan, & return home in the autumn of this year.

Business of all kinds has been very much depressed for the last year, throughout the Country. Our manufacturing establishments, are suffering extremely by the depression in the value of domestic goods. There has been a number of very heavy failures at the eastward, & there will probably be many more, as the prices at which these goods are selling, are less than the cost of manufacturing. Of local news I have very little to give you. Our canal is navigable to Simsbury, & there is a good deal of business doing upon it, but untill it is made through to Connecticut river, it [illegible] be a very profitable Concern. The prospect for the sale of our land is not very favorable. The quantity of government land in the market, & the low price at which it is sold, has nearly destroyed the market for Ohio lands, & they are now worth less than they were 10 or 15 years ago. I had an offer of $2.50 pace for 50 acres of our land, but did not think it best to sell at that price. The State is gradually filling up & the operation of the canal is tending to increase the value of lands in the vicinity of it. It passes within about 6 miles of our land. Charles' Connexion with the Mulfords, has, in a pecuniary view, been most unfortunate & the manner in which he has been treated, shews Mr. M. to be utterly devoid of honor, & I may add honesty. Within a few days of the time Charles was married, Mr Mulford applyed to him to endorse for him, giving him assurance that he was in a lucrative business, & that there could no danger arise to him from his doing it, as the business was perfectly safe & profitable. Charles consented to do it, & became bound for him for four thousand dollars. Mr. Mulford has failed, & Charles has had the whole sum to pay. It seems that Mulford has been a bankrupt for several years, & at that time Charles first endorsed for him #

Townsend who married a daughter of Mr. M. was led into the same snare & has had the same sum to pay for Mr. M. James Mulford was in an excellent situation in N. York, a partner in the house of Scofield, Phelps & Howard, & had accumulated between four & five thousand dollars. He also has been involved in ruin by his father & has been under the necessity of leaving the concern with which he was connected, & is thrown back to where he commenced in life, with nothing but his own exertions to depend upon. I cannot think upon the manner in which Mr. M. has treated Charles with any patience. He has shewn himself to be a heartless scoundrel. Charles hopes to recover something from him, but I do not see much prospect of his ever paying any thing. James Mulford is bound to Charles with his father, & should he obtain a good situation he may pay something in the course of time, but from the old man there is little to be hoped. Charles intends to sell off as much of his out lands as he can & pay off his debts if possible. There is however little demand for real estate & it is difficult to make sales of it without a sacrifice. We all wish much that you would come home this fall if possible. Sarah wishes to be remembered very affectionately to you & your wife. I am with love to the very

Sincerely & affectionately yr brother

George

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E. & G. R.
July 31. N.Y.
Recd Oct 2 at Halle

PAYS D'OUTRE-MER
PAR LE HAVRE

8
SEPT
1829

JUL
31

Septembre
10
1829

6

Mr Edward Robinson
Care of Messieurs B. Curtis & Porter
Rue de l'Echiquier No. 44.
Paris

en France